

How to visit Israel and "Arabs" while

TEL AVIV (AP) — U.S. Minister of Defense Caspar Weinberger on Sunday urged Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to make a deal for Palestinian self-government in the West Bank, a PLO official said on Saturday. The official said Weinberger had been promised to stay in Israel. Another official said to the press said: "He will be close to negotiations." A U.S. spokesman said Weinberger will not be on official business there. It will be strictly private." PLO officials said the United States had become more involved in peace talks between Israel and the PLO over expansion of self-rule in the West Bank. They said Washington was preparing to host a West Bank summit meeting, possibly on Sept. 6 and administration officials were urging PLO and Israeli negotiators to conclude an agreement by the end of the month.

Volume 19 Number 5996

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

Rockets hit Kabul killing 2, wounding 9

KABUL (AP) — Rockets slammed into a western suburb of Afghanistan's war-devastated capital on Saturday killing two people and wounding at least nine others, authorities said. "There were about 40 rockets. It was the will of God that most of them landed in areas already destroyed otherwise more people would have been killed," said Mohammad Basir, commander of a government post in the area. The government blamed the assault on Taliban fighters, former religious students turned guerrillas. "The rockets came from Taliban positions west of the city," said Mr. Basir. However, it was impossible to confirm who launched the rockets in Saturday's attack, the second in 10 days. Kabul has been relatively peaceful since last March 9 when government soldiers pushed their heavily armed opponents out of firing range of the capital.

King: Summit with Saudi monarch soon

Washington 'has not made any request to Jordan' to take any measure against Iraq

By a Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein reaffirmed Saturday that relations with Saudi Arabia are back to "what they used to be" and that a summit meeting with King Fahd Ben Abdul Aziz will take place soon.

"The relationship is now back to normal, and has gone back to what it ought to be. God willing, a meeting with King Fahd will take place soon," the King told reporters after chairing a cabinet meeting Saturday evening.

"We have a clear and frank position (on Iraq) and we are with this (the Iraqi) people so that they can get rid of the situation in which they live and regain their rights and live as an important people and country that form our depth."

The King also said that there had been breakthroughs in inter-Arab relations which are "moving in the right track."

"The situation in the Arab World is reassuring even though there is a lot that worries and pains, especially the suffering of the Iraqi people," the King said.

A government official said earlier the Kingdom will not jeopardise its economic interests or add to the suffering of the Iraqi people.

The King said he was in personal contact with U.S. President Bill Clinton and the American administration, which "showed admiration for Jordan's position, its courage and role in the Arab countries."

"They have expressed readiness to offer anything that Jordan needs and did not request us to take any measures (against Iraq)," the King said, stressing that Jordan only acts in the interest of the Arab Nation.

A government official said earlier the Kingdom will not jeopardise its economic interests or add to the suffering of the Iraqi people.

Jordan has stressed that the improvement of its ties with Saudi Arabia will not affect its relations with Baghdad, adding that it seeks good relations with all Arab countries.

"Jordan denied the reports," the King said.

"Iraq on its side is still keen on this relation (with Jordan) and desires to develop it and boost in all fields," the Iraqi spokesman said.

He denied reports by "hostile horns and circles" of Iraqi troops being massed towards Jordan.

"The talk about the possibility of a reverse in economic cooperation and ties in the fields of oil and energy on Iraq's side is absurd," he added.

"Iraq is barred from exporting most of its oil under tough U.N. sanctions imposed after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Jordan, however, is allowed to fulfill all its oil needs by importing from Iraq, giving Baghdad a vital economic incentive to keep its oil flowing," the spokesman said.

"The Jordanian reaction is an echo of the 1990 Gulf crisis, when it refused to join the U.S. coalition to drive Iraq from Kuwait and popular support was overwhelming with President Saddam," he said.

Double about U.S. reports of "unusual" Iraqi military movements were expressed even in Kuwait, Iraq denied any abnormal military activity.

"Washington wants to blackmail Jordan and its pan-Arab links with Baghdad, to corner it, turn it into an American protectorate and an easy prey for Israel," wrote Tareq Maarruf in the main circulation daily Al Ray.

"We are not in a desperate position to accept such American lowness," he said.

State-run television on Friday did not report joint U.S.-Jordanian war games.

Many fear Jordan could

be drawn into a conflict with Iraq.

Younger smokers times more likely have heart attack

LONDON (AFP) — Smokers in their 30s and 40s five times as many as heart attack survivors in Britain, a report said Friday.

"We are not in a desperate position to accept such American lowness," he said.

Washington insists on talking about an Iraqi

accord on Jordan and on

PLO sees West Bank accord in September

the two sides were trying to wrap up the long-delayed deal for the signing date.

Israel and the PLO have missed a series of deadlines on expanding autonomy in the West Bank and the process should have begun more than a year ago. Self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho was launched in May 1994.

PLO officials said U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross would start a private visit on Sunday to Israel where negotiations are to resume talks. It was not clear whether he would meet the negotiator.

Mohammad Zahdi Al Naqash, in charge of finance in the authority, said the key issues required detailed discussions.

According to the source, Prince Saad Al Faisal, the Saudi foreign minister, is also expected in Amman late this week or early next week on a visit that comes in response to an invitation extended to him by his Jordanian counterpart, Karim Kabariti.

There is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit Jordan soon.

The focus of Mr. Musa's

visit is to discuss the

West Bank self-rule accord on Sept. 6. They said

there is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

There is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit Jordan soon.

The focus of Mr. Musa's

visit is to discuss the

West Bank self-rule accord on Sept. 6. They said

there is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit Jordan soon.

The focus of Mr. Musa's

visit is to discuss the

West Bank self-rule accord on Sept. 6. They said

there is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit Jordan soon.

The focus of Mr. Musa's

visit is to discuss the

West Bank self-rule accord on Sept. 6. They said

there is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit Jordan soon.

The focus of Mr. Musa's

visit is to discuss the

West Bank self-rule accord on Sept. 6. They said

there is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit Jordan soon.

The focus of Mr. Musa's

visit is to discuss the

West Bank self-rule accord on Sept. 6. They said

there is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit Jordan soon.

The focus of Mr. Musa's

visit is to discuss the

West Bank self-rule accord on Sept. 6. They said

there is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit Jordan soon.

The focus of Mr. Musa's

visit is to discuss the

West Bank self-rule accord on Sept. 6. They said

there is some progress on the key issues and there are issues which cannot be resolved without a political deal.

The visit of Prince Saad is

expected to be another cornerstone in Jordanian-Saudi reconciliation and to pave the

way for a summit between King Hussein and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

According to other reports, also officially unconfirmed, the foreign ministers of Qatar and Oman are also expected to visit

Chechens continue handing in arms despite Russian attacks

GROZNY (AFP) - Chechen fighters continued surrendering their weapons Saturday, despite reports of ongoing fighting between guerrillas and Russian forces, a spokesman for Chechen separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev said.

"The Russian firing at Achkhoy Martan was a provocation destined to interrupt negotiations," Movlady Udagov told AFP, referring to Russian attacks this week in the area 50 kilometres west of Grozny.

But he said the disarmament operation, begun August 16 in southeast Chechnya, would continue Saturday in Achkhoy Martan and in Shali, a former separatist stronghold 30 kilometres south of Grozny.

Udagov added Achkhoy Martan had elected 25 members to a Chechen self-defence committee in return for disarming, in line with the Russian-Chechen military agreement signed July 30. According to Udagov, preparations for disarmament should also take place in the regions of Gudermes,

the second largest town in the republic, situated 50 kilometres east of the capital, and in Shatoi in the mountains to the south.

He said Chechens had handed six armoured troop transports over to Russian forces Friday in Gekhi, a small town 30 kilometres southwest of Grozny.

Vasily Panchenkov, member of the Russian delegation to peace talks, told AFP the Russian-Chechen commission responsible for monitoring the disarmament process was due Saturday to travel to Achkhoy Martan, Shali and Kurchaloy, a large town east of Shali.

Earlier Saturday, the Russian ITAR-TASS news agency reported a Russian soldier was killed and two others wounded in one of 12 separate attacks by Chechen fighters in the republic overnight.

The troops returned fire in several of the attacks, the agency added, citing the Russian interior ministry in the Chechen capital Grozny. Moscow's Echo Radio reported Friday Vladimir

Zorin, who headed the Russian delegation at the peace talks which produced the accord, and Chechen chief negotiator Khodzhakhmed Yarikhanov had agreed to resume political talks on the future of Chechnya in Grozny on Tuesday.

Under the military accord, Chechen self-defence units of up to 25 lightly armed men are to be set up in villages after guerrillas surrender their weapons and Russian troops withdraw.

Russia is to leave behind one brigade of interior ministry troops and one mechanised brigade of army troops in Chechnya for a total of about 6,000 troops.

But disagreements over disarmament and lists of prisoners to be exchanged have held up the full implementation of the accord. Russian troops poured into the small Caucasus Republic last December to crush an independence bid led by Dudayev. The intervention triggered an eight-month war that has left between 15,000 and 30,000 dead, according to various estimates.

A Russian army officer (L) inspects an automatic rifle in the village of Zandak near the Chechen-Dagestan border earlier this week. This was the first ceremony in which Chechen rebels handed in their weapons according to a military deal between Moscow and the separatists signed on July 30 (Reuters photo)



India weighs risks in Kashmir rescue effort

SRINAGAR, India, (R) - The Indian government was weighing the risks on Saturday of a possible military raid to free four Western hostages from Muslim militants, but officials said such a move would be considered only as a last resort.

They said a group of Western specialists experienced in handling kidnappings met the governor of India's Jammu and Kashmir State, K.V. Krishna Rao, on Saturday to discuss the various options.

Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao told state-run All India Radio as saying that New Delhi would make "all the possible efforts...To secure the safe release of the hostages."

It did not say whether these efforts included negotiations to free 15 jailed Muslim militants as demanded by the Al-Faran group holding the hostages

- an American, two Britons and a German — in exchange for sparing their lives.

Al-Faran, which kidnapped five Western tourists from Kashmir's scenic Pahalgam Mountains last month, beheaded Norway's Hans Christian Ostroe last weekend.

Asked whether the government planned to mount a commando raid on the little-known group's mountain hideout, an official spokesman said: "Only if the other options are closed off and we think the hostages are not safe, then we'll consider it."

"They won't come to terms till they are worn out," he added.

The group, responding to news that foreign hostage negotiators had joined efforts to free the hostages, warned on Friday that the four would be killed in any

raid.

"Al-Faran has expressed its surprise over the government's plans to launch a military operation for the rescue of the tourists," Al-Faran said in a statement to an international news agency in Srinagar, summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

The warning came as diplomats confirmed that British police negotiators from Scotland Yard had been in India for "some days" to support attempts to end a six-week hostage-taking ordeal in which a Norwegian tourist was beheaded by his shadowy captors.

An Indian official declined to confirm or deny press reports that members of the elite British Special Air Service (SAS), the U.S. Delta force and Germany's anti-terrorism force were also in Kashmir to help solve the hostage crisis.

"But if they are there then

any advice they can give will be welcome," he said. "We are doing everything in close coordination with the countries concerned."

Pressure on New Delhi to mount a rescue raid increased dramatically on Sunday when the beheaded remains of Ostroe, 27, were found by a peasant collecting firewood in remote Kashmir.

Al-Faran militants, unknown even to Kashmiri separatists before the abductions, threatened in a note found near Ostroe's body to kill the remaining four hostages unless 15 jailed guerrilla comrades were released within two days.

The group still holds Britons Keith Mangan and Paul Wells, American Donald Hutchings and German Dirk Hasert.

ETA admits failed attack

BILBAO, Spain (AFP) - The Basque separatist group ETA on Saturday admitted responsibility for a failed assassination attempt against King Juan Carlos on the Spanish island of Majorca earlier this month.

Police foiled the plan when they arrested three ETA members on August 9 in Palma de Majorca.

According to judicial sources, the three arrested men admitted trying to kill the king, but Saturday's claim, made in a statement published in the Basque separatist newspaper *Egin*

was the organisation's first formal admission of involvement.

ETA blamed the failure of the bid on "technical complications," adding that the group had the king in their line of fire twice in August.

The leader of the commando told a judge shortly after their arrest that the commando team, equipped with a gun with telescopic sights, managed to bring King Juan Carlos into their line of fire on several occasions while he was on board his yacht. Police have rejected this account, saying the king was never in danger during the operation.

Yeltsin calls for rapprochement with democratic forces

MOSCOW (AFP) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin marked the fourth anniversary of the failed 1991 coup by hardline communists Saturday with a call for closer ties between the Kremlin and the country's "democratic forces."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

dictatorship to democracy. He admitted the country still suffered many problems, including criminality which exposed the "insufficient" efforts taken against terrorism and organised crime.

"We need a considerable overhaul of the whole system of running the special services and forces of order" to protect society against crime, he added.

However, he denied plans to re-establish the former KGB intelligence service in the all-embracing form it once enjoyed. It has been replaced by two services, one for external and one for internal security.

Referring to the August 1991 coup attempt against then-soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Yeltsin said it was defeated by the people because its perpetrators

had tried to "savagely usurp power."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

dictatorship to democracy. He admitted the country still suffered many problems, including criminality which exposed the "insufficient" efforts taken against terrorism and organised crime.

"We need a considerable

overhaul of the whole system of running the special services and forces of order" to protect society against crime, he added.

However, he denied plans to re-establish the former KGB intelligence service in the all-embracing form it once enjoyed. It has been replaced by two services, one for external and one for internal security.

Referring to the August 1991 coup attempt against then-soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Yeltsin said it was defeated by the people because its perpetrators

had tried to "savagely usurp power."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

dictatorship to democracy. He admitted the country still suffered many problems, including criminality which exposed the "insufficient" efforts taken against terrorism and organised crime.

"We need a considerable

overhaul of the whole system of running the special services and forces of order" to protect society against crime, he added.

However, he denied plans to re-establish the former KGB intelligence service in the all-embracing form it once enjoyed. It has been replaced by two services, one for external and one for internal security.

Referring to the August 1991 coup attempt against then-soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Yeltsin said it was defeated by the people because its perpetrators

had tried to "savagely usurp power."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

dictatorship to democracy. He admitted the country still suffered many problems, including criminality which exposed the "insufficient" efforts taken against terrorism and organised crime.

"We need a considerable

overhaul of the whole system of running the special services and forces of order" to protect society against crime, he added.

However, he denied plans to re-establish the former KGB intelligence service in the all-embracing form it once enjoyed. It has been replaced by two services, one for external and one for internal security.

Referring to the August 1991 coup attempt against then-soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Yeltsin said it was defeated by the people because its perpetrators

had tried to "savagely usurp power."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

dictatorship to democracy. He admitted the country still suffered many problems, including criminality which exposed the "insufficient" efforts taken against terrorism and organised crime.

"We need a considerable

overhaul of the whole system of running the special services and forces of order" to protect society against crime, he added.

However, he denied plans to re-establish the former KGB intelligence service in the all-embracing form it once enjoyed. It has been replaced by two services, one for external and one for internal security.

Referring to the August 1991 coup attempt against then-soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Yeltsin said it was defeated by the people because its perpetrators

had tried to "savagely usurp power."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

dictatorship to democracy. He admitted the country still suffered many problems, including criminality which exposed the "insufficient" efforts taken against terrorism and organised crime.

"We need a considerable

overhaul of the whole system of running the special services and forces of order" to protect society against crime, he added.

However, he denied plans to re-establish the former KGB intelligence service in the all-embracing form it once enjoyed. It has been replaced by two services, one for external and one for internal security.

Referring to the August 1991 coup attempt against then-soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Yeltsin said it was defeated by the people because its perpetrators

had tried to "savagely usurp power."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

dictatorship to democracy. He admitted the country still suffered many problems, including criminality which exposed the "insufficient" efforts taken against terrorism and organised crime.

"We need a considerable

overhaul of the whole system of running the special services and forces of order" to protect society against crime, he added.

However, he denied plans to re-establish the former KGB intelligence service in the all-embracing form it once enjoyed. It has been replaced by two services, one for external and one for internal security.

Referring to the August 1991 coup attempt against then-soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Yeltsin said it was defeated by the people because its perpetrators

had tried to "savagely usurp power."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

dictatorship to democracy. He admitted the country still suffered many problems, including criminality which exposed the "insufficient" efforts taken against terrorism and organised crime.

"We need a considerable

overhaul of the whole system of running the special services and forces of order" to protect society against crime, he added.

However, he denied plans to re-establish the former KGB intelligence service in the all-embracing form it once enjoyed. It has been replaced by two services, one for external and one for internal security.

Referring to the August 1991 coup attempt against then-soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Yeltsin said it was defeated by the people because its perpetrators

had tried to "savagely usurp power."

If the putsch had been successful, he argued, it would have caused the collapse of the former Soviet Union to develop into a bloody debacle "inevitably engulfing the whole of Russia."

The constitution of December 1993 had saved Russia's political stability, he went on, advocating the creation of a genuine middle class and a modern judicial system.

"For that, people have to change themselves, ordinary citizens as well as politicians," he said, rejecting suggestions Russians preferred

U.S. trade gap worsens

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's trade deficit widened to \$11.4 billion in June, the second-worst showing on record. Weakness in U.S. exports and another rise in the nation's foreign oil bill offset falling demand for imported cars.

Through the first six months of this year, the Commerce Department reported Friday, the trade deficit in merchandise alone is running at an annual rate of \$188 billion. The previous all-time high of \$166 billion was set last year.

The Clinton administration insisted that the deficit would soon start shrinking, but some economists worried that the dollar's recent rise could make it even harder to cure America's chronic trade problems.

The Commerce Department said the monthly deficit in goods and services was 2.4 per cent higher than a revised May imbalance of \$11.04 billion. It was the largest trade gap since a record deficit of \$11.42 billion set in April.

The new report caught economists by surprise. They had been expecting the deficit to narrow as a slowing U.S. economy cut into demand for foreign products.

Imports, which had hit an all-time high in May, did backtrack slightly, dropping by 0.6 per cent. But exports, also at a record high in May, fell at double that pace, 1.2 per cent.

In a separate report, the Labour Department said the number of Americans filing first-time claims for unemployment benefits edged up by 6,000 last week to 338,000. Analysts predicted claims would drift higher in coming

weeks as the economy remains sluggish.

The decrease in trade imports reflected a big drop of \$354 million in shipments of foreign cars and parts and a \$367 million decline in demand for other consumer goods such as toys and televisions.

On the export side, U.S. sales abroad of autos were also down for the month, falling by \$548 million, while big-ticket exports such as aircraft engines and factory machinery fell by \$281 million.

"I think in the next few months we will begin to see an improvement in the merchandise trade balance," said U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

Mr. Kantor noted that U.S. export growth, despite sluggish economies overseas, had remained strong this year, up by 15.9 per cent over the same period in 1994.

The trade gap has widened, however, because import growth has been even stronger, climbing by 17.4 per cent in the first six months of this year.

The worsening trade performance represents a major political headache for President Clinton, who has emphasized trade as a top priority of his foreign policy.

Gordon Richards, chief economist at the National Association of Manufacturers, called recent administration dollar-buying efforts to support the U.S. currency "precisely the wrong policy.... Sustaining the current expansion is dependent on export growth, and to this end, a lower dollar is absolutely essential."

Despite a number of market-opening trade

accords with Japan and other nations, the deficit has continued to climb, giving ammunition to critics who charge the administration's trade strategy is a failure.

The deficit with Japan did shrink for a third straight month in June, dropping by 3.7 per cent to \$5.29 billion. U.S. exports to Japan climbed to the second-highest level on record while American imports of Japanese cars dropped.

But critics said part of the improvement reflected the bruising auto trade fight, which disrupted shipments of Japanese luxury cars until the threat of punitive U.S. tariffs was lifted on June 28. They said the imbalance with Japan still remained the highest for any country and was symptomatic of closed markets throughout Asia. The deficit with China jumped 5.6 per cent in June to \$3 billion.

"We have huge and persistent trade deficits with Japan, China and other countries in South East Asia that reflect underlying structural problems," said Lawrence Chimerine with the Economic Strategy Institute in Washington. "Clearly we are going to hit a record deficit this year by a big margin."

The U.S. deficit with Mexico climbed to \$1.65 billion in June, reflecting the continued fallout from Mexico's currency crisis, which is turning what had been consistent surpluses into big deficits.

Adding to U.S. trade problems is a growing dependence on foreign oil. The bill for imported oil climbed to \$5.09 billion, highest level in 11 months, although the price per barrel declined slightly to \$16.81.

Imports, which had hit an all-time high in May, did backtrack slightly, dropping by 0.6 per cent. But exports, also at a record high in May, fell at double that pace, 1.2 per cent.

In a separate report, the Labour Department said the number of Americans filing first-time claims for unemployment benefits edged up by 6,000 last week to 338,000. Analysts predicted claims would drift higher in coming

months as the economy remains sluggish.

The decrease in trade imports reflected a big drop of \$354 million in shipments of foreign cars and parts and a \$367 million decline in demand for other consumer goods such as toys and televisions.

On the export side, U.S. sales abroad of autos were also down for the month, falling by \$548 million, while big-ticket exports such as aircraft engines and factory machinery fell by \$281 million.

"I think in the next few months we will begin to see an improvement in the merchandise trade balance," said U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

Mr. Kantor noted that U.S. export growth, despite sluggish economies overseas, had remained strong this year, up by 15.9 per cent over the same period in 1994.

The trade gap has widened, however, because import growth has been even stronger, climbing by 17.4 per cent in the first six months of this year.

The worsening trade performance represents a major political headache for President Clinton, who has emphasized trade as a top priority of his foreign policy.

Gordon Richards, chief economist at the National Association of Manufacturers, called recent administration dollar-buying efforts to support the U.S. currency "precisely the wrong policy.... Sustaining the current expansion is dependent on export growth, and to this end, a lower dollar is absolutely essential."

Despite a number of market-opening trade

accords with Japan and other nations, the deficit has continued to climb, giving ammunition to critics who charge the administration's trade strategy is a failure.

The deficit with Japan did shrink for a third straight month in June, dropping by 3.7 per cent to \$5.29 billion. U.S. exports to Japan climbed to the second-highest level on record while American imports of Japanese cars dropped.

But critics said part of the improvement reflected the bruising auto trade fight, which disrupted shipments of Japanese luxury cars until the threat of punitive U.S. tariffs was lifted on June 28. They said the imbalance with Japan still remained the highest for any country and was symptomatic of closed markets throughout Asia. The deficit with China jumped 5.6 per cent in June to \$3 billion.

"We have huge and persistent trade deficits with Japan, China and other countries in South East Asia that reflect underlying structural problems," said Lawrence Chimerine with the Economic Strategy Institute in Washington. "Clearly we are going to hit a record deficit this year by a big margin."

The U.S. deficit with Mexico climbed to \$1.65 billion in June, reflecting the continued fallout from Mexico's currency crisis, which is turning what had been consistent surpluses into big deficits.

Adding to U.S. trade problems is a growing dependence on foreign oil. The bill for imported oil climbed to \$5.09 billion, highest level in 11 months, although the price per barrel declined slightly to \$16.81.

Imports, which had hit an all-time high in May, did backtrack slightly, dropping by 0.6 per cent. But exports, also at a record high in May, fell at double that pace, 1.2 per cent.

In a separate report, the Labour Department said the number of Americans filing first-time claims for unemployment benefits edged up by 6,000 last week to 338,000. Analysts predicted claims would drift higher in coming

months as the economy remains sluggish.

The decrease in trade imports reflected a big drop of \$354 million in shipments of foreign cars and parts and a \$367 million decline in demand for other consumer goods such as toys and televisions.

On the export side, U.S. sales abroad of autos were also down for the month, falling by \$548 million, while big-ticket exports such as aircraft engines and factory machinery fell by \$281 million.

"I think in the next few months we will begin to see an improvement in the merchandise trade balance," said U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

Mr. Kantor noted that U.S. export growth, despite sluggish economies overseas, had remained strong this year, up by 15.9 per cent over the same period in 1994.

The trade gap has widened, however, because import growth has been even stronger, climbing by 17.4 per cent in the first six months of this year.

The worsening trade performance represents a major political headache for President Clinton, who has emphasized trade as a top priority of his foreign policy.

Gordon Richards, chief economist at the National Association of Manufacturers, called recent administration dollar-buying efforts to support the U.S. currency "precisely the wrong policy.... Sustaining the current expansion is dependent on export growth, and to this end, a lower dollar is absolutely essential."

Despite a number of market-opening trade

accords with Japan and other nations, the deficit has continued to climb, giving ammunition to critics who charge the administration's trade strategy is a failure.

The deficit with Japan did shrink for a third straight month in June, dropping by 3.7 per cent to \$5.29 billion. U.S. exports to Japan climbed to the second-highest level on record while American imports of Japanese cars dropped.

But critics said part of the improvement reflected the bruising auto trade fight, which disrupted shipments of Japanese luxury cars until the threat of punitive U.S. tariffs was lifted on June 28. They said the imbalance with Japan still remained the highest for any country and was symptomatic of closed markets throughout Asia. The deficit with China jumped 5.6 per cent in June to \$3 billion.

"We have huge and persistent trade deficits with Japan, China and other countries in South East Asia that reflect underlying structural problems," said Lawrence Chimerine with the Economic Strategy Institute in Washington. "Clearly we are going to hit a record deficit this year by a big margin."

The U.S. deficit with Mexico climbed to \$1.65 billion in June, reflecting the continued fallout from Mexico's currency crisis, which is turning what had been consistent surpluses into big deficits.

Adding to U.S. trade problems is a growing dependence on foreign oil. The bill for imported oil climbed to \$5.09 billion, highest level in 11 months, although the price per barrel declined slightly to \$16.81.

Imports, which had hit an all-time high in May, did backtrack slightly, dropping by 0.6 per cent. But exports, also at a record high in May, fell at double that pace, 1.2 per cent.

In a separate report, the Labour Department said the number of Americans filing first-time claims for unemployment benefits edged up by 6,000 last week to 338,000. Analysts predicted claims would drift higher in coming

months as the economy remains sluggish.

The decrease in trade imports reflected a big drop of \$354 million in shipments of foreign cars and parts and a \$367 million decline in demand for other consumer goods such as toys and televisions.

On the export side, U.S. sales abroad of autos were also down for the month, falling by \$548 million, while big-ticket exports such as aircraft engines and factory machinery fell by \$281 million.

"I think in the next few months we will begin to see an improvement in the merchandise trade balance," said U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor.

Mr. Kantor noted that U.S. export growth, despite sluggish economies overseas, had remained strong this year, up by 15.9 per cent over the same period in 1994.

The trade gap has widened, however, because import growth has been even stronger, climbing by 17.4 per cent in the first six months of this year.

The worsening trade performance represents a major political headache for President Clinton, who has emphasized trade as a top priority of his foreign policy.

Gordon Richards, chief economist at the National Association of Manufacturers, called recent administration dollar-buying efforts to support the U.S. currency "precisely the wrong policy.... Sustaining the current expansion is dependent on export growth, and to this end, a lower dollar is absolutely essential."

Despite a number of market-opening trade

Study: Deregulation offers huge potential for cable phone services

LONDON (AFP) — Deregulation of the European telecommunications market could offer hugely profitable opportunities for cable operators to provide telephone services, according to a study published in London.

From here until the year 2005, the launch of European-wide cable telephone services could result in 25 million new lines and yield profits of \$9.7 billion, creating up to 200,000 jobs, the British Cable Communications Association (CCA) claimed.

Currently, only in Britain are cable operators allowed to offer telephone services.

"Europe is now at a crucial point in the process of telecommunications liberalisation," said CCA chief executive Richard Woolham.

"The 1998 deadline set by the European Commission for the deregulation of the sector presents the European cable industry with a perfect opportunity to offer competition to millions of telephone users," he pointed out.

These huge potential revenues for cable operators, in Woolham view, justify the \$9.7 billion in infrastructure investments that would be required.

But he warned that unless countries across Europe introduce the appropriate regulatory regime, "none of this can be realised."

According to CCA, profits from "traditional" cable activities such as pay-as-you-watch channels offering films and sport will double in the next ten years to \$26.2 billion, with the number of European television cable subscribers rising by 40 per cent to 56 million.

Total profits of cable operators will increase from \$7.5 billion in 1995 to \$26.2 billion in 2005, according to the study.

The CCA is due to host an international cable communications conference in London from Oct. 23 to 25.

Brazil to embark on \$35b telecommunications overhaul

SAO PAULO (AFP) — Brazil has opened the doors to private investment in telecommunications for the first time in 25 years, leaving it to local and foreign investors to provide the \$35 billion needed to modernise its telephone system.

With a telephone network of some 12 million lines — or 8.3 telephones per 100 inhabitants — and 13 million lines short of satisfying current demand, Brazil is the least equipped country of Latin America.

One of the most advanced countries of the continent, Brazil is today ranked 10th in the region in terms of telephones per capita and 43rd in the world.

According to the latest statistics from the International Telecommunications Union, Brazil is behind Puerto Rico with 28 phones per 100 inhabitants; Uruguay with 26; Costa Rica with 14; Argentina 13; Chile and Mexico 10; Venezuela, Colombia and Panama 9.

Communications Minister Sergio Motta estimates that Brazil needs to invest between \$30 and \$35 billion by

the year 2000.

Mr. Motta's ambitious goal is to provide Brazil with 11 million telephone lines by the end of 1999.

In a report calling for the break-up of the state telephone monopoly, Jose Antônio de Alencastro e Silva, former president of Telebras, charged that the state has turned having a telephone into a privilege.

Only one in five urban households, 53 per cent of businesses, and two per cent of rural properties have telephones, he explained, stressing that these "shocking inequalities" put Brazil below the world average of 11.38 telephones per 100 inhabitants and below the Latin American average of 8.9.

According to Mr. Alencastro e Silva, it will take \$75 billion to modernise the year 2000 telephone system that has become "premises, obsolete and insufficient as a result of 20 years of monopoly."

According to Mr. Motta, Telebras invested 62 per cent of its earnings, or \$55 billion.

Mr. Motta proposed a three-stage plan which would

begin by leaving to the private sector data transmission and the development of cellular telephones.

There are 690,000 people on a waiting list for cellular phones, 600,000 of them in São Paulo alone. The Swedish manufacturer Ericsson estimates the cellular market in São Paulo at five million units.

The second phase of Mr. Motta's plan involves creating a new tariff structure.

Under the current tariff structure, cheap local service is subsidised with highly expensive international service.

It costs \$6.13 to call the United States from Brazil for three minutes, compared to only \$2.58 for a three minute call to Japan.

Monthly rates are ridiculously low at 65 U.S. cents. That's 90 units of three minutes each, making the cost of an intercity call about \$0.007.

British unemployment rises for first time in two years

LONDON (AFP) — British unemployment rose for the first time in nearly two years in July, prompting a wave of criticism of government policy from opposition parties and trade union officials.

The number of people out of work in Britain rose by 1,700 in July from the figure in June in 2.315 million, or 8.3 per cent of the workforce, figures released by the Central Statistical Office (CSO) have shown.

This is the first rise in the jobless total since last July, when the monthly fall in the jobless total has steadily declined from over 50,000 to around 4,000 for the past two months.

Meanwhile, the general secretary of the main TUC trade union umbrella organisation, John Monks, damned the jobless figures as "depressing" and attacked the government for encouraging a hire-and-fire strategy among employers.

"Instead, the government must invest in jobs and training and take urgent steps to end the plague of job insecurity," he said.

Last month a survey by the CBI employers' organisation said that manufacturing production is now rising at its slowest rate for 15 months.

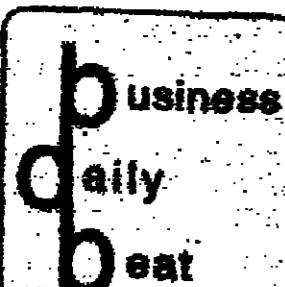
Labour's employment spokesman Ian McCartney said: "Today's claimant count figures are just the tip of the iceberg of this Tory government-induced economic disaster. Insecurity has spread like a plague across every part of the U.K. and is holding back any prospect of lasting economic recovery."

Meanwhile, the general secretary of the main TUC trade union umbrella organisation, John Monks, damned the jobless figures as "depressing" and attacked the government for encouraging a hire-and-fire strategy among employers.

"Instead, the government must invest in jobs and training and take urgent steps to end the plague of job insecurity," he said.

Last month a survey by the CBI employers' organisation said that manufacturing production is now rising at its slowest rate for 15 months.

Business & Finance

on \$35b
s overhaA review
of economic news
from the Arabic pressRank
to invest
\$400m in
new Florida
theme park
with MCA

LONDON (AP) — British leisure group Rank Organisation has announced it will invest around \$400 million in a vast new Florida theme park venture in partnership with U.S. entertainment company MCA.

Rank and MCA, a subsidiary of Seagram, have agreed to invest jointly \$2 billion in the development of a resort called Universal City Florida (UCF), in Orlando, Florida, scheduled to open by summer 1999.

Rank will pay for its share from cash raised through sale its 40 per cent stake in Rank Xerox earlier this year, and a consortium of banks has agreed to provide \$1.2 billion of financing.

The two companies already jointly own the movie-based theme park Universal Studios Florida (USF), also located in Orlando, which is operated by MCA.

This new resort will contain a theme park Universal's Island of Adventures, consisting of five theme-based islands including one inspired by the film, Jurassic Park, and an entertainment zone with restaurants, shops and a cinema. Construction of four hotels is also planned.

The investment in UCF represents a further commitment to a proven and profitable part of Rank's leisure interests," the U.K. group said in a statement released in London.

USF cost around \$960 million to build, of which Rank contributed \$273 million. Since its opening in 1990, the film theme park has generated \$375 million in net cash flow.

Rank cited an independent study predicting annual paid admissions at the Islands of Adventures would exceed the 6.4 million admissions at USF last year, "due to its larger capacity and wider demographic appeal."

The U.K. leisure group added that the increasing attractions of Orlando as a leisure destination provided "an accelerating demand" for new theme parks such as UCF.

THE PRICE of Tunisian olive oil imported by the Ministry of Supply has been reduced from JD 8,000 to JD 6,750 per can for 4,375 kilograms (Al Ra'i).

SINCE THE collapse of a five-storey building in Jabal Nazzal last October, about 200 construction companies have joined the Contractors' Association. Mohammed Murad, head of the association, said the number of members now stand at 1,435, having a total capital of JD 145 million. He said that the contracting sector employs about 60,000 workers and that it has an 18 per cent share in the gross domestic product (Al Ra'i).

THE JORDAN-Danish Dairy Company clarified in a statement that only one unit of its plant was shut until a filter is installed and not the whole factory as has been erroneously reported last week (Al Dustour).

IN ORDER to organise areas that can be used as quarries, stone crushers and cutters as well as asphalt mixers, the Natural Resources Authorities has specified two areas: The first is located between Wadi Al Qattar and Wadi Al I'sh, in the Amman Governorate, and can serve for quarries for the next 30 years. The second location is at Al Hallabat in Zarqa Governorate. The authority has chosen a suitable location for quarries in Irbid and an approval is being sought from the Cabinet to proceed into organising the area. With regard to Ajloun, the authority has stopped more than 30 quarries operating illegally in that area and the situation is being reviewed by the Cabinet to find a suitable solution for these quarries. According to the head of the authority, organising the locations of the quarries has ended 90 per cent of the chronic problems of the past 30 years. However, work will continue on finding suitable and permanent quarries in the remaining governorates, he said (Al Ra'i).

Municipal
councils
owe cities
and villages
bank
JD 41.8m

THE CITIES and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) lent JD 2.4 million during the first six months of this year. CVDB General Manager Zuhair Khalifeh said 35 per cent of the credits benefited Zarqa governorate, 22 per cent went to Irbid governorate, 16 per cent to Balqa Governorate and the rest was lent to other regions.

Benefiting of these loans were also 35 municipalities and 11 village councils in addition to five productive projects which accounted for 40 per cent of the loans. Asphalt roads accounted for 34 per cent of the loans while 6.5 per cent went for purchases of vehicles and equipment. Dr. Khalifeh said that as of June 30, 1995, municipal councils had a total indebtedness of JD 41.8 million to the bank.

The CVDB chief urged the municipalities to focus on collecting their dues from the public, as there were large uncollected amounts. He stressed that the bank will concentrate on extending loans to the municipalities for productive projects in the coming stage in addition to financing infrastructure schemes such as public buildings and roads, especially for new municipalities. The bank has opened a branch in Karak to facilitate its activities in the southern regions and, within this drive, is now considering opening two more branches, one in Mafrag and the other in Maan. Dr. Khalifeh said the CVDB intends to open branches in all the governorates during this year and 1996 (Al Dustour).

THE PRICE of Tunisian olive oil imported by the Ministry of Supply has been reduced from JD 8,000 to JD 6,750 per can for 4,375 kilograms (Al Ra'i).

SINCE THE collapse of a five-storey building in Jabal Nazzal last October, about 200 construction companies have joined the Contractors' Association. Mohammed Murad, head of the association, said the number of members now stand at 1,435, having a total capital of JD 145 million. He said that the contracting sector employs about 60,000 workers and that it has an 18 per cent share in the gross domestic product (Al Ra'i).

THE JORDAN-Danish Dairy Company clarified in a statement that only one unit of its plant was shut until a filter is installed and not the whole factory as has been erroneously reported last week (Al Dustour).

IN ORDER to organise areas that can be used as quarries, stone crushers and cutters as well as asphalt mixers, the Natural Resources Authorities has specified two areas: The first is located between Wadi Al Qattar and Wadi Al I'sh, in the Amman Governorate, and can serve for quarries for the next 30 years. The second location is at Al Hallabat in Zarqa Governorate. The authority has chosen a suitable location for quarries in Irbid and an approval is being sought from the Cabinet to proceed into organising the area. With regard to Ajloun, the authority has stopped more than 30 quarries operating illegally in that area and the situation is being reviewed by the Cabinet to find a suitable solution for these quarries. According to the head of the authority, organising the locations of the quarries has ended 90 per cent of the chronic problems of the past 30 years. However, work will continue on finding suitable and permanent quarries in the remaining governorates, he said (Al Ra'i).

Fokker fights for survival

AMSTERDAM (R) — Dutch aircraft maker Fokker N.V. said Friday it could pull operations out of the Netherlands in a desperate bid to survive, while its shares crashed to an all-time low on fears that it might be in a terminal dive.

Fokker shares fell more than 25 per cent to six guilders after it was forced into a humiliating public assurance on Thursday that Germany's Deutsche Aerospace (DASA) would honour its plan to invest around \$400 million in a vast new Florida theme park venture in partnership with U.S. entertainment company MCA.

Rank and MCA, a subsidiary of Seagram, have agreed to invest jointly \$2 billion in the development of a resort called Universal City Florida (UCF), in Orlando, Florida, scheduled to open by summer 1999.

Fokker spokesman Leo Steijn said relocating to a low-wage, dollar-based country was one of the long-term options being considered as part of a package to keep the firm alive.

Fokker reported a loss of 651 million guilders (\$401 million) for the first half of

Dubbed the "dolores" plan — for dollar low rescue — it could also include changing the terms of contracts with Fokker's suppliers to pay them in dollars.

"Dolores is a DASA plan, in which Fokker is involved, where we study ways to shield ourselves from dollar changes," said Mr. Steijn, adding that the plan should be ready by early October.

Fokker — the world's largest regional plane maker — has been hit by record first-half losses after poor markets and the collapse of the dollar to historic lows against the guilder wrecked its earnings.

The company is highly vulnerable to currency changes because it sells aircraft for dollars but its costs for building them are in guilders.

"Market prices fell because of economic recession. We were getting fewer dollars per aircraft and fewer guilders per dollar. That's it in a nutshell," Mr. Steijn told Reuters.

Fokker reported a loss of 651 million guilders (\$401 million) for the first half of

the year Tuesday, almost wiping out shareholders' equity.

Mr. Steijn said one part of the plan would be the sale of Fokker's 1.3 billion guilder (\$800 million) aircraft leasing operation to a Daimler subsidiary called Debs, easing pressure on Fokker's balance sheet.

Creative solutions — like asking suppliers to bear currency risks alongside Fokker — would help the firm ride out current financial problems and seize growing business opportunities.

"The market has huge potential and business is definitely growing," Mr. Steijn said. Airlines postponed purchases in the recession but were now finally talking business.

"We need to be in a good financial shape to take advantage of these opportunities," he said.

But he added that it was still too early to give further details about the package to be put before the Dutch government, which has already coughed up millions of taxpayers' guilders to keep the company afloat and keep Dutch jobs.

Sudan asks African Development Bank for more funds for industry

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan has asked the African Development Bank (ADB) for more funds to help it rehabilitate its industry, a senior official said Saturday.

Al Saad Osman Mahjoub, director general of the state El Nilein Bank Group for Industrial Development, told the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) that his country needed at least \$150 million to boost the industrial sector over the next three to four years.

Sudan's factories operate at a tiny fraction of their capacity due to lack of hard currency to import raw materials and spare parts, a shortage of electricity, high labour turnover, rising cost of inputs and marketing difficulties.

Mr. Mahjoub said the Abidjan-based bank had recently lent his corporation \$16 million to boost textile and packaging factories and flour mills in Sudan.

He said his group had urged the ADB to give it more funds to finance other industrial projects such as those involving edible oil, soap, medicines, chemicals and building materials.

Sudan has drawn loans from ADB worth \$38 million for sugar growing, irrigation and petroleum projects.

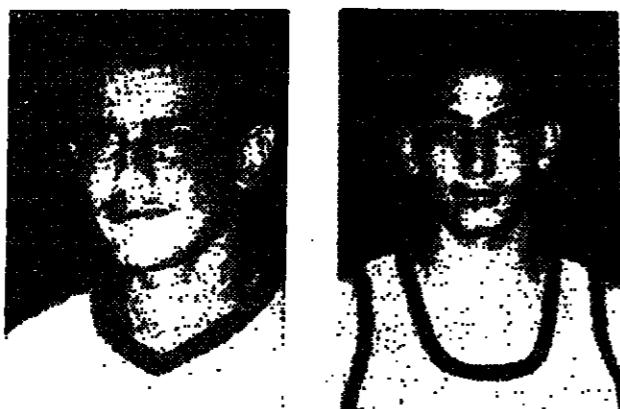
A Sudanese minister said recently that Khartoum's relations with the ADB had returned to normal since May.

JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET					
HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - SHAMSIAH					
TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607179					
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SATURDAY 19/08/1995					
COMPANY'S NAME					
NO. OF SHARES	NO. OF TRADES	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	JD	PRICE
ADAB BANK PIC	260	51285	220,500	219,500	1,450
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	822	3739	4,550	4,550	1,500
BANK OF JORDAN	2221	7550	3,400	3,400	1,240
MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK	17876	21785	1,280	1,280	500
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	200	500	2,550	2,500	1,210
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	490	1371	2,800	2,800	2,810
JORDAN GAZA BANK	51050	58709	1,150	1,150	1,150
EL NILEIN BANK	57	21832	3,700	3,700	1,500
UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	234	974	1,850	1,850	1,850
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	664	2809	4,050	4,050	1,600
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	46195	48965	1,050	1,050	1,050
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	5600	8999	1,830	1,830	1,830
BANKS SECTOR					
	131216	235045	INDEX NUMBER: 181,14	INDEX NUMBER: 181,14	CHANGE: -0,37%
JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	4132	11212	2,700	2,700	1,000
JORDAN GULF INSURANCE	150	435	2,900	2,900	1,200
AL-NISR AL-ARABI INSURANCE	4033	17140	4,250	4,250	1,500
INSURANCE SECTOR					
	6315	28787	INDEX NUMBER: 133,33	INDEX NUMBER: 133,33	CHANGE: +0,00%
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	14363	27161	1,630	1,630	1,630
JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES	500	1400	2,800	2,800	2,800
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	1250	2788	2,240	2,230	2,230
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	250	298	1,180	1,180	1,180
ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	1200	3816	3,240	3,240	3,240
ZARQA PRIVATE UNIVERSITY	7800	10630	1,390	1,390	1,390
SERVICES SECTOR					
	25353	42092	INDEX NUMBER: 127,31	INDEX NUMBER: 127,31	CHANGE: -0,53%
JORDAN TOBACCO & CIGARETTES	84	2024	24,600	24,600	1,500
JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	3636	13311	3,700	3,650	1,500
JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES	517	1576	3,050	3,050	1,500
THE ARAB POTASH	5000	25000	4,890	5,000	1,500
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY	122	11543	9,850	9,850	1,500
JORDAN TANNING	533	4204	2,000	2,000	1,500
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	100	340	3,400	3,400	1,500
THE JORDAN WORSTED MILLS	50	377	7,540	7,540	1,500
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	5950	30609	5,150	5,150	1,500
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	300	1800	6,000	6,000	1,500
JORDAN DAIRY	500	1250	2,400	2,500	1,500
THE JORDAN PIPE MANUFACTURING	580	1392	2,550	2,550	1,500
JORDAN AL-ARAB DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	5950	42300	7,800	7,800	1,500
ARAB INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	5950	4498	1,450	1,450	1,450
ARAB ALUMINUM INDUSTRY	1300	6972	5,350	5,380	1,500
LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	62750	30120	1,490	1,490	1,490
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	450	635	1,410	1,410	1,410
NATIONAL INDUSTRIES	5350	5467	1,020	1,030	1,030
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	2409	5261	2,190	2,180	1,500
J					

U-22 basketball championship

Ahli play Orthodoxi in final round tonight

By Aileen Bannayan
Jordan Times Staff Reporter



Riyad Ayesh

Mahmoud Sha'ban

AMMAN — Interesting and competitive matches await basketball fans this week as the final round of the Kingdom's Under 22 championship begins Sunday, when Al Ahli face Al Orthodoxi and Al Jazireh meet Al Yarmouk.

Al Ahli currently lead the standings with an unbeaten record in the playoffs after defeating Al Jazireh 72-60, Al Orthodoxi 87-64 and Al Yarmouk 97-55.

Al Orthodoxi are second after upsetting titleholders Al Jazireh 66-62 and scoring a 95-71 win over Al Yarmouk, while Al Jazireh's only win was 92-42 over Al Yarmouk.

Al Ahli's powerful lineup seem to be the title favourites so far despite the fact that Al Jazireh are the team that might be able to turn expectations upside down. In their latest match against Al Ahli, they came back from 37-21 down to trail 40-39 at halftime but amazingly caught up to lead at 51-50 at mid-second half. However Al Ahli were in control and managed to hold down their opponent's scoring to win 72-60.

If they are to settle for second place, Al Jazireh must beat Al Orthodoxi by over four points provided that Al Orthodoxi lose to Al Ahli again.

Apart from their 87-64 loss to Al Ahli, Al Orthodoxi maintained a consistent form and have displayed better teamwork than the titleholders. Playmaker Fadi Saqqa, a member of U-18 national team which took part in the World Championship, has brilliantly led teammates Mahmoud Sha'ban, Ihab Msih and new recruit Ashraf Samara.

Al Jazireh's usual stars like Yousef Abu Baker, Gaiti Ennabi and Munther Muheisen have not displayed their usual form and last year's winners seemed a fraction of the team that

STANDINGS

	P	W	L	SF	SA	Pts
Ahli	3	3	-	256	179	6
Orthodoxi	3	2	1	225	220	5
Jazireh	3	1	2	214	182	4
Yarmouk	3	-	3	168	284	3

Schedule of matches

(All at Al Ahli court)			
★ Yarmouk-Jazireh Sun 20-8	Orthodoxi-Ahli Sun 20-8	5 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
★ Ahli-Yarmouk Tue 22/8	Orthodoxi-Jazireh Tue 22/8	5 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
★ Orthodoxi-Yarmouk Thurs 24/8	Jazireh-Ahli Thurs 24/8	5 p.m.	6:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball Championship

Orthodoxi manage win over Ahli

By Aileen Bannayan
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Al Ahli gave titleholders Al Orthodoxi a hard time before losing by a mere three points 55-52 in the second match of the 1995 women's basketball championship organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF).

In the opening match of the three-team tournament, former champions Al Jazireh scored a convincing 66-33 win over Al Ahli with the Kingdom's current undisputed star Jumana Al Salti scoring 37 points.

Al Ahli was also a key player in the national team and was named among the top five Asian players in Level B of the Asian basketball championship which concluded July 30 in Japan.

In Saturday's match, Al Orthodoxi seemed but a fraction of the team that held an undisputed reign until 1992 when they used to beat all teams by double scores.

While the injury of the team's veteran player Shereen Abu Khader in the first half must surely have affected their morale, the team's usual top scorers like Dima and Ghada Qandah and Lara Masri-Naber seemed to lack concentration and had weak finishing.

While Al Orthodoxi dictated the pace and kept the lead in the first half, the gap narrowed down and the scoreboard showed the titleholders leading 30-29 at halftime.

Al Orthodoxi took their lead to 37-32 with

Hind Al Ghouri rebounding, scoring and hampering her opponents with personal fouls.

Al Ahli's Andeira Kasesieh scored 7 consecutive points followed by a three-pointer by Sirsa Abatha as Al Ahli trailed 45-44 with eight minutes remaining.

With Kasesieh roused out and a limited lineup of relatively inexperienced teammates on the bench, Al Ahli's newly regrouped team could not take advantage of their opponent's surprising poor showing and both teams failed to score for over three minutes.

Al Orthodoxi scored by Ghouri and Dima Qandah to again lead 52-45, while Al Ahli's Sirsa Naghaway lost a couple of easy lay-ups that could have significantly altered the result but eventually scored a three pointer.

Al Orthodoxi still kept the lead 54-51 and applied a full court press defense ending the game 55-52.

Al Orthodoxi might call up one of the team's key players, Jehane Abdel Nour, to take leave from her work in Beirut to join her teammates especially in their matches against Al Jazireh.

Al Orthodoxi had last year won the championship when Al Jazireh abruptly pulled out of the championship citing differences with the JBF, while the only other competing team was Abu Nusair, with Al Ahli and Homemmen staying out of the competition.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH HIRSCH
© 1994 Times Mirror Service Inc.

THAT ELUSIVE OVERTRICK

The battle for an overtrick is largely a waste of effort at rubber bridge, but is the heart and soul of duplicate. A relatively inexperienced West had the benefit of a free lesson in technique on this deal from a recent tournament.

Despite the 3 1/2 quick tricks, we would not dream of opening the North hand in any seat. Once partner opened one spade, however, anything less than a jump to game would be a craven act and an insult to partner.

West led a heart. Declarer won in hand, crossed to the king of hearts and led a low trump from dummy.

When East showed out, declarer inserted the ten. In with the jack, West was employed in four suits.

Any return was going to cost a trick. Since the lesser of evils seemed to be

to play partner for a minor suit jack, West flipped a coin mentally and returned a diamond.

That round to declarer's ten. The ace of spades was cashed, followed by the king and ace of diamonds. Now West was tucked back on lead a second time with the king of trumps, and was again employed.

A club would be declarer's tenace; a heart would allow declarer to ruff in one hand while discarding the losing club from the other. Either way, declarer emerged with 11 tricks for an excellent score.

A ruseful West remarked: "I must be getting better. At least I'm beginning to know what's being done to me." That statement leads to the secret of success at bridge—do unto others before they do unto you.

The bidding: North East South West Pass Pass 1 * Pass 4 * Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♦

Van Basten bids Milan emotional farewell

MILAN (R) — Former Dutch international striker Marco Van Basten, forced to retire due to a chronic ankle injury, bid an emotional farewell to thousands of AC Milan fans at a pre-season friendly against Juventus on Friday.

Van Basten, who joined Milan in 1987 and helped them to European Cup triumphs in 1989 and 1990, announced his retirement from soccer on Thursday after a three-year battle with a troublesome right ankle.

The Dutch marksman was greeted by tumultuous applause from both Milan and Juventus fans in the 60,000-strong crowd when he walked onto the pitch of Milan's San Siro Stadium in the company of his former team mates before Friday's match.

AC Milan fans waved banners thanking Van Basten and lamenting his departure. One read: "San Siro without Van Basten is like a falcon without wings."



Marco Van Basten

A visibly-moved Van Basten, casually dressed in a suede jacket and jeans, ran round the pitch waving to fans while the stadium's massive television screens showed replays of his most famous goals.

Milan's general manager Adriano Galliani has said the club, owned by media magnate Silvio Berlusconi, has asked Van Basten, to stay on and work with them in an off-the-field capacity, perhaps a promotional role.

But Van Basten told reporters on Thursday he had not yet decided what he would do in the future.

Sampras, Ivanisevic move into RCA semis

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Top-seeded Pete Sampras reached the 400-victory mark on the ATP Tour, beating Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine 6-2, 6-2 on Friday in the quarterfinals of the RCA championships.

"I'm really on, in every aspect of my game," said Sampras, who has not lost his serve in the tournament and has won 90 per cent of his first-serve points. "My serve is definitely there. I wish every match would go this smoothly. Beating Alex two, two is a pretty good effort."

Medvedev, who upset Sampras in the German Open semifinals in May, was never a factor in the rematch at the Indianapolis tennis centre.

"He played great," Medvedev said. "I couldn't get a lot of first serves in, and he was serving great. He played definitely better than me today."

Sampras will face No. 12 Bernd Karpacher of Germany and No. 2 Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia will play No. 4 Thomas Enqvist of Sweden.

Ivanisevic beat No. 7 Alberto Berasategui of Spain 6-4 in Friday night's final quarterfinal.

"My serve was very good today, but my return was not so great," said Ivanisevic, who had 14 aces. "I will have to play better tomorrow."

Enqvist beat Jerome Gilmar of France 6-3, 6-1.

"I started serving very well," Enqvist said. "I hit some good shots there in the last two games."

Karabach defeated Richey Renegar 7-6 (7-3), 7-5 in a match delayed nearly 2 1/2 hours by rain.

"I said, 'OK, you go for every shot; if you lose,'" Karabach said. "Then I played a few great points, and then suddenly I saw that is the you have to go."

Delay sought in NBA lawsuit

NEW YORK (AP) — Courts of law will decide in September whether there will be action on National Basketball Association courts in November.

The National Labour Relations Board made the latest move in the legal feud that has pitted owners and the players union against a breakaway group of players unhappy with a proposed bargaining agreement.

The board has asked a Minnesota judge to postpone a September 6 hearing on an anti-trust lawsuit filed by the agent-supported players' faction, which is led by such stars as Michael Jordan, Patrick Ewing and Alonzo Mourning.

The NBA's 420 players are scheduled to vote August 30 and September 7 on a new contract deal worked out between owners and union leaders. Rejecting the plan would decertify the union and legitimise the anti-trust suit.

Wilander, Agassi advance to Volvo semifinals

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — Mats Wilander delighted his new hometown crowd Friday, upsetting Marc Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

Wilander, 30, once a native of Sweden who now resides in Greenwich, overcame sixth-seeded Rosset in the quarterfinals of the Volvo international.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Cape Town launches 2004 bid

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa's Minister of Sport Steve Tshwete officially launched Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games on Saturday and unveiled the new bid logo. "Thousands of years ago the continents divided and went their separate ways. Now it is time they return to Africa," was the slogan that accompanied the launch of the new symbol — a torch using the colours of the South African flag in the shape of Africa. "It is a bold logo. It integrates South Africa into the continent where she belongs," Tshwete told Reuters. "The rest of the continent can feel part of this bid."

South Korea rout Hong Kong 7-0

SEOUL (AP) — Striker Choi Yang-Soo scored four goals on Saturday in an Asia Group C preliminary for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. A crowd of 5,000 saw the game despite drizzling rain. Saturday's match placed South Korea at the head of the Group C with three victories. It is to face Indonesia on Tuesday to advance to the six-team second round of Asian preliminaries.

Blackburn campaign begins

LONDON (AFP) — Mattie Holmes will be the only new face in Blackburn's squad when last season's champions entertain QPR to begin their title defence. Holmes, who joined Rovers in a cash-plus-player deal which took Robbie Slater to West Ham, looks certain to be in Ray Harford's 13 and could even start the game in midfield. Defenders Colin Hendry and Jeff Kenna are not ruled out. Hendry is recovering from a groin problem and Kenna is improving after damaging ankle ligaments at Wembley last weekend. David Batty and Kevin Gallacher, absent most of last season, are both fit and only Jason Wilcox (cruciate knee ligament) and Paul Warhurst (broken leg) are unavailable.

</div

Africa's Minister of Sport and Cape Town's bid for the continental championships. It is time they return to the continent where the colours of the Southern African Swimming Championships.

Sautin, silver medalist behind Hempel at the 1993 European Championships in Sheffield, turned the tables on his German rival to match the gold medal performance of fellow Russian Vera Ilina in Friday's women's three-metre springboard final.

Sautin, who won highboard gold and three-metre springboard silver at both the

beginnings

beginnings will be the only defence. Holmes, a deal which took Ray Harford in midfield. Defenders are not ruled out. Hendon and Kenna are improving at Wembley last week, while absent most of the season Wilcox (fractured leg) and son Wilcox (fractured knee) are making

esbrough players, half out of the Premier League, Arsenal at Highbury, their head and set it explained. "I will be delighted to see the No. 16 Jersey. I'm not hung up by my bone, I'm prepared to play when he's without injured striker Jim Fleming.

Flamengo 3-0

ian striker Bebeto scored to lead the Spanish club Flamengo in Spain. Bebeto, one of the game's first and foremost, in the 14th minute. Deportivo's second goal was World Cup teammate, whose team had been first scoring opportunity.

Neumann
reached, the reigning Belgian to win a first division season, on Thursday, said Albert Neumann. Asked if the assistant coach believed that the ex-coach Ray Brussels team as "we had several disastrous opening first division matches to swallow a summary home against Ferencvaros next Wednesday.

Eindhoven beat promoted first division soccer without Brazilian injured. Eindhoven players, Wim Jonk from club Brugge and Christ from Vitesse Arnhem, are a team of fighters, the exception of delectable PSV this season. But his injury after half an hour, Jonk played a one-ball to Peter Hoenk.

practice

World 5000 metres to make a late return in first official race, Australian Doohan, was this sixth overall and is consistently the fastest on the track. However, in the battle stormed to the pits again to push World champion from a two-week holiday. 3.473 seconds over 33.542.

FOR RENT

Furnished ground floor with garden in a prominent area of Jabal Amman - 3, bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, spacious reception, dining, maids room with bath, modern kitchen and a large terrace, a large water reservoir - total area circa 300m².

Location: 4th Circle close to Japanese Embassy, facing entrance of Korean Embassy residential complex.

Please call 602956 or contact personally at the building, 1st floor.

Merlene to death
Rev. Hubert Schatz, pastor at the Amman Methodist Church, was to the scene to comfort another.

"We've been very pleased with their accomplishment," Schwartz said.

Arkansas State track and field coach Jay Flanagan said: "Jonesboro, Arkansas, Ottey's death was a tremendous shock to our programme. She is someone we felt could help us to recruit. It is a void and she was one of our recruits. It is a sad commentary on the times. Something like this touches you."

"When she was here, she seemed to be adjusted, likeable and a nice young lady. It's sad to lose someone like her."

Sports

Sautin bags second Russian gold

VIENNA (R) — World highboard champion Dmitry Sautin dethroned German Jan Hempel in the men's three-metre springboard final on Saturday to bring Russia their second diving title of the European Swimming Championships.

Sautin, silver medalist behind Hempel at the 1993 European Championships in Sheffield, turned the tables on his German rival to match the gold medal performance of fellow Russian Vera Ilina in Friday's women's three-metre springboard final.

Sautin, who won highboard gold and three-metre springboard silver at both the

1993 European Championships and 1993 European Championships and 1993 World Championships, effectively settled his duel with Hempel in the fourth round of the six-dive final.

Hempel, leading Sautin by just 1.2 points, performed a poor reverse piked 2½ somersaults and the Russian rival with a magnificent reverse 3½ somersaults with tuck which netted 81.90 points and put him more than 30 points clear.

That proved the highest score of the contest in the open-air stadium diving pool and only a calamity

could have denied the Russian in the last two rounds.

The imperturbable Sautin swept confidently on the gold, amassing 670.36 points from his six final dives and the five compulsory dives of Friday's semifinal in which he managed only the fourth-best tally.

"I didn't follow his results on the scoreboard but I heard a loud splash in the water and the reaction of the crowd," Sautin said of Hempel's ill-starred effort.

Hempel completed his medal collection in the event with the silver after his bronze of 1989 and gold of 1993. He had an 11-dive

aggregate of 634.05.

Roman Volodkov of Ukraine overhauled Viacheslav Khamulov of Belarus with his last dive to clinch the bronze with an aggregate of 615.81.

Earlier, Rita Kovacs of Hungary won the women's five-kilometre long-distance race held in a canal next to the river Danube, the first time the event has been staged with the other aquatic disciplines in the same championship city.

Kovacs, at 25 the oldest of the 14 competitors, won in one hour 38.30 seconds ahead of German Peggy Duechse (1:00:50.80).

49ers beset with injuries

ROCKLIN, California (AP) — The training camp routine is becoming painful for the San Francisco 49ers.

On Thursday, top draft pick J.J. Stokes broke a bone of his right hand, becoming the latest casualty in an injury-plagued camp for the Super Bowl champions. He's expected to miss up to six weeks.

Stokes is the second player in as many days to go down with a serious injury. Fullback William Floyd sprained right knee ligaments on Wednesday and will be sidelined about three weeks.

The tone was set on the first day of camp when defensive end Troy Wilson dislocated his right shoulder and four of five regulars in the offensive line have missed time. Center Bart Oates (elbow) and guard Derrick Deese (ankle) return to duty in an exhibition against Carolina but tackles Harris Barton (calve bruise) and Steve Wallace (knee) remain sidelined.

Guard Jesse Sapolsky, upset at the rash of injuries and the potential damage to San Francisco's regular season hopes, lashed out at the National Football League, saying the league was partly at fault for pressuring the 49ers into playing their sixth overseas exhibition in eight years. San Francisco played in Zaragoza on September 2 and finishes in Madrid on September 24.

Indurain will not race in Tour of Spain

LUGO, Spain (R) — Fivetimes Tour de France winner Miguel Indurain confirmed on Friday he would not compete in next month's Tour of Spain.

Indurain, who has never won the Spanish tour and in the past has skipped it to concentrate on the French race, made the announcement at a news conference in the northwestern city of Lugo shortly after winning the Tour of Galicia.

"I don't have the will or the enthusiasm," Indurain said. "I don't see the possibility of being able to compete this year."

The 31-year-old from Navarra, who won his record-breaking fifth consecutive Tour de France last month, has been wooed by organisers eager to see him race on home soil.

This year they changed the traditional date of the tour from May to September in a move widely seen as an incentive to the Spanish. He previously refused to race in May so as to prepare for France.

The tour of Spain starts in Zaragoza on September 2 and finishes in Madrid on September 24.



Spain's Miguel Indurain acknowledges the cheers of the crowd as he holds aloft the winner's trophy of the Tour de France earlier last month (AFP photo)

Overall standings:

1. Miguel Indurain (Spain-Banesto) 20h 40m 16s
2. Maarten Den Bakker (Netherlands-TVM) (Two seconds behind)
3. Fernandez
4. Eleuterio Anguita (Spain-Castellblanch)
5. Melchor Mauri (Spain-Once)
6. Van Heeswijk
7. Jalabert
8. Furcal
9. Bottaro
10. Olano

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171

Furnished Apartment for Rent
The apartment has 3 bedrooms, living room, dining room, large kitchen, 3 washrooms (toilets), fire place, sun heater and elevator. High class furniture.
Call after 2:00 p.m. at Tel # 750997

TWO FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
The first is a 200 square metres, separate ground floor apartment, consisting of two bedrooms, guest room, sitting and dining area, glassed-in veranda, garden, and a garage. The second is a 220 square metre second floor apartment, consisting of three bedrooms, guest room, living room, glassed-in balcony. Each apartment has separate central heating, telephone, main room, large kitchen, and deluxe furniture.
Please call Tel. 665711 and 664256

FOR RENT

Furnished ground floor with garden in a prominent area of Jabal Amman - 3, bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, spacious reception, dining, maids room with bath, modern kitchen and a large terrace, a large water reservoir - total area circa 300m².

Location: 4th Circle close to Japanese Embassy, facing entrance of Korean Embassy residential complex.

Please call 602956 or contact personally at the building, 1st floor.

TODAY
AT
CINEMA TEL:634144 **PHILADELPHIA**
Meryl Streep with Kevin Bacon & David Strathairn in
The River Wild
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA TEL:699238 **PLAZA**
Nabila Obeid & Yousef Sha'aban...in
Huda and H.E. the Minister
(Arabic)
Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5, 6:45, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA TEL:677420 **CONCORD**
CONCORD "1"
Ninja Turtles 3
Shows: 12:30, 3:30
Adel Imam in
Bakheet and Adilah
Shows 6, 8:15, 10:45
CONCORD "2"
SPECIALIST
Shows: 3:30, 5:30, 11

AMMOON THEATRE
TEL:618274 - 618275
MUSA HIJAZIN "sumaa"
IN
Hi Citizen
daily at 8:30 pm
written & directed by
Mohammed Shawaqfeh

Nabil & Mashini Theatre
TEL:675571
Presents
KABARET
Abeer Issa
Ghassan Mashini
with Amer Khamash, Khalil
Jahmani, Mohammad Hussein
and Issam Al Hanbali
The theatre closes on Monday
Performances start at 8:30 p.m.

Nabil & Hisham's Tel:625155
AHLAN THEATRE
presents
(Ahlan Tatbee')
Welcome
Normalisation
Shows start at 8:30 p.m.
For reservation please call
tel. 625155 Amman

Seles impressive in reaching semis

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 1995 11



Monica Seles

anti-inflammatories so hopefully it's going to hold up," Seles said. "If it can't hold up here, how's it going to hold up at the (U.S.) Open for two weeks — that's my problem."

Seles admitted later that her knee was still a problem.

"It was very sore yesterday (Thursday) but I've gotten treatment on it and taken

middle of the court with no angles and then go for the sides," Huber explained.

"But it was difficult because she was hitting the ball so hard."

FOR RENT

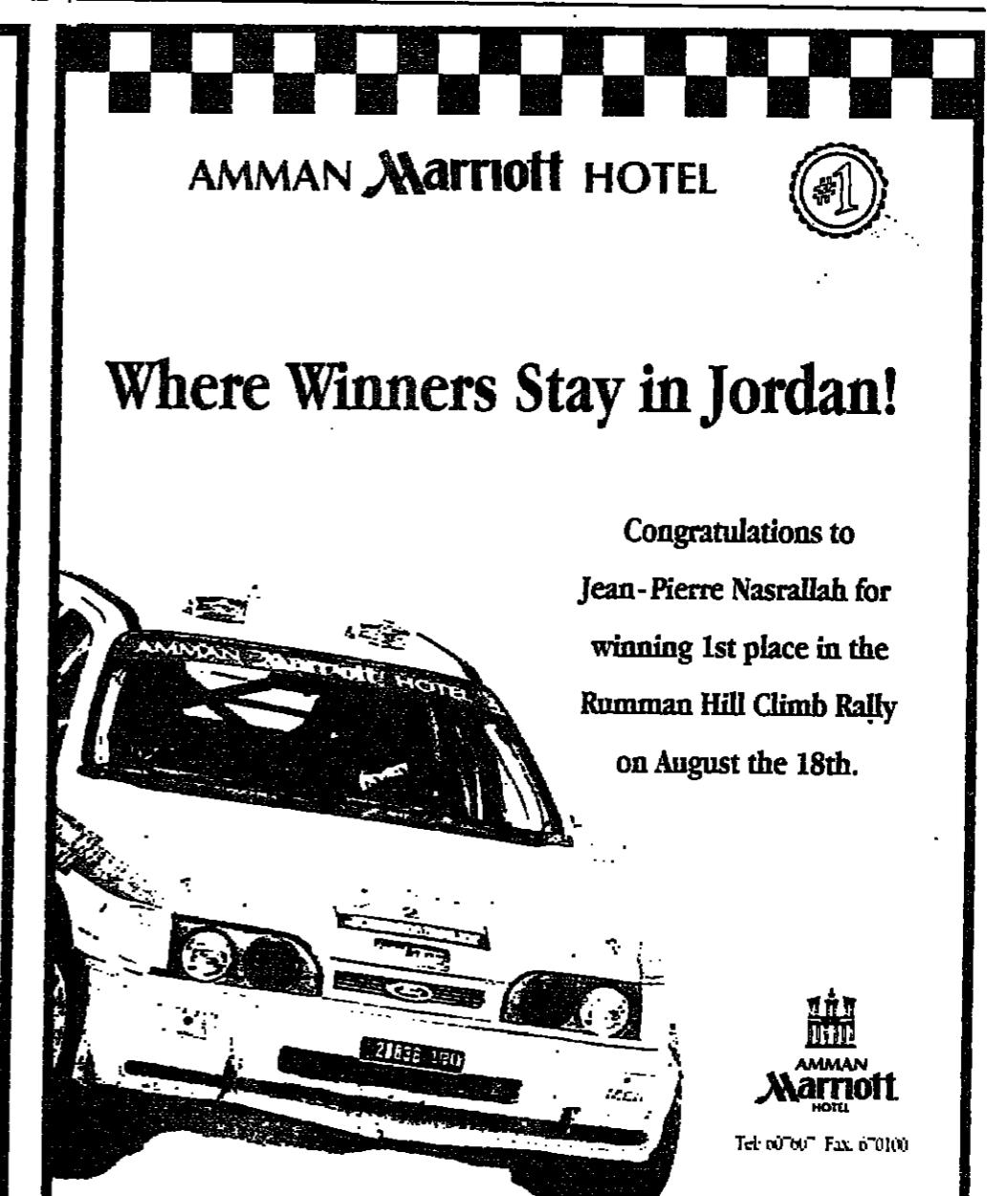
A new super deluxe unfurnished apartment in Um Uthaina. First floor, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Oak wood kitchen and garage. Can be rent as furnished.

Only direct contact is accepted Tel: 821687

FOR SALE

Bahraini licensed. Nissan - Sunny JX 92. In excellent condition, automatic gear, air conditioned

Please call 791547 or 844564



Where Winners Stay in Jordan!

Congratulations to

Jean-Pierre Nasrallah for winning 1st place in the Rumman Hill Climb Rally on August the 18th.



Tel: 67607 Fax: 670100

Probe into Paris blasts focuses on Algerians

Similarities seen between two explosions that rocked French capital in one month

PARIS (Agencies) — Struck by "an air of déjà-vu" between the two bombings that have rocked Paris this summer, authorities on Saturday focused on Algerian extremists.

The French radio station RTL said Saturday that a caller speaking in the name of the "GIA General Command" claimed responsibility for Thursday's attack that wounded 17 people near the Arc de Triomphe.

Police sources said they could not authenticate that claim but were taking it seriously. For the first time, they disclosed that the station had received two similar claims after the July 25 bombing that killed seven people and wounded 84 others in a Paris subway.

The "GIA General Command" is a new name in Algeria's 3½-year-old civil war. Analysts speculate that it might be an offshoot of the extremist Armed Islamic Group, known by its French initials GIA, which is trying to topple the military-backed Algerian government.

Interior Minister Jean-Louis Debre said there was "a certain number of troubling elements" in common with the July 25 explosion on a commuter train in the heart of Paris' Left Bank.

Thursday's bomb planted in a rubbish bin injured 17, including three seriously. The July attack claimed seven lives and injured more than 80.

"There were gas canisters (packed with explosives) in both cases, similar types of explosives, symbolic locations, identical times of day," Mr. Debre said, but added that it was too early to say precisely whether the same

group was behind both attacks.

Investigators have determined the gas canister stuffed with nails and bolts that exploded Thursday was purchased in Belgium, as was a similar canister used in the train attack in the 1980s.

Then, a total of 13 people were killed and more than 300 were injured in two waves of attacks linked with events in the Middle East.

Paris is on full alert, with an extra 1,200 police called in since Thursday, bringing the force up 17,200, and security intensified around major tourist venues.

But popular French newspaper *France-Soir* called ensuring total security in the capital a "mission impossible." It illustrated the point with photographs of a reporter succeeding in planting a make-believe bomb in a rubbish bin in a Paris underground station Friday, even though most such bins have been hermetically sealed. The reporter was not stopped by security forces.

"We cannot place policemen behind every trash bin," said Françoise Rudetsky, president of SOS Attentats, an aid group that helps victims of terrorist attacks, herself a victim of a 1986 bomb blast.

Investigators Saturday said they were taking seriously evidence given by a youth on a bicycle who said he saw two men putting a package in a trash bin, with some difficulty, just before Thursday's blast.

The witness said he had described their appearance to police, who drew up sketches. Police did not comment on the men's appearance or confirm that sketches had

been drawn.

Investigators have determined the gas canister stuffed with nails and bolts that exploded Thursday was purchased in Belgium, as was a similar canister used in the train attack in the 1980s.

According to initial investigations, the explosive used in Thursday's attack included chlorate. Police were unable to determine the type of explosive used in the subway bombing but suspect it was also chlorate-based.

Authorities believe the bombers are the assassins who shot to death the elderly co-founder of the Islamic Salvation Front, at a Paris mosque on July 11, the French daily *Le Monde* reported Saturday, citing unidentified police sources.

The slain imam, Abdul Baki Sahrouti, was at odds with the GIA, which reportedly put his name on a death threat list in May.

Both groups are fighting for strict Islamic rule in Algeria and are angry at France for supporting the government in its former colony.

GIA has threatened attacks on French soil, making it a prime suspect in both bombings and in the assassination, the newspaper *Le Figaro* reported Saturday, also citing unnamed investigators.

"There's an air of déjà-vu" among authorities probing the attacks, an investigator told the French daily *Libération*.

Algerian newspapers on Saturday also blamed Islamic insurgents for the latest bombing. "Coincidence?" questioned a headline in one, the daily *Le Matin*.



JOINT EXERCISES: Two American soldiers taking part in joint exercises with Jordanian servicemen clean their weapons during a break in the manoeuvres under way in the southern desert (photo by Yousef Allan)

Floods claim 135 in Morocco

RABAT (Agencies) — More than 130 bodies have been recovered from valleys hit by severe floods in southwest Morocco and dozens of people are believed to be missing. Moroccan media reported on Saturday.

Most of the 136 victims were found trapped in cars engulfed in rivers of mud that swept into the valleys from the Atlas Mountain range south of Marrakesh, 350 kilometres from the capital Rabat, the official news agency MAP said.

The floods were touched off by torrential rains which hit the region on Thursday night.

The newspaper Al Alam said nearly 200 people were believed to be missing in the regions of Sidi Fatima, Ourika, Moulay Brahim, Oujigane and Zerkene. There was no immediate confirmation of the report by officials.

Moroccan Television showed pictures of cars stacked atop each other like toys and trees which appeared to have snapped like twigs. Bulldozers were clearing roads blocked by mud.

The television said more than 100 homes and shops were destroyed when the waters swept down from the outlying hills, bringing trees crashing down on stone houses and sending cars hurtling into each other.

Interior Minister Driss Basri visited the disaster scene on Friday and later joined survivors for a prayer of thanks. He said a special commission would be set up to follow up the rescue operation and offer help to the rural communities.

Apart from the 136 drowning victims so far recovered, another 20 mutilated or decapitated bodies have been found by rescue workers, a regional official told AFP.

Those have not yet been counted in the floods death toll as workers continue to search for and identify other victims of the flooding.

The freak storms swept away cars, trees, cattle and even clay-brick houses in several villages. Tents put up for a religious festival were also carried away.

Officials said so far they had not discovered any tourists among the victims.

FIS vows to block presidential polls

ALGIERS (AFP) — A leader of Algeria's banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) pledged Saturday that FIS would prevent the military-backed regime from holding presidential elections scheduled for Nov. 16.

A communiqué from Paris by Anwar Haddam, head of the group's parliamentary delegation abroad, rejected the election and said it was "the duty of everyone to prevent this manoeuvre directed against the Algerian people."

The call pointed towards further guerrilla action against the government two days after a spectacular double car-bomb attack on an exclusive and heavily-guarded official residence outside Algiers which killed two people.

The FIS "categorically rejects this election under the form proposed by the putschists (referring to the Algerian government) and warns against any attempt to internationalise the Algerian crisis," the communiqué added.

Mr. Haddam, one of the regime's most virulent critics, warned that the elections "will prolong the crisis and aggravate the people's suffering."

"The military junta wants to impose (this poll) on the people by force to acquire legitimacy from the international community in the absence of popular legitimacy (in Algeria)," he added.

The government announced the first round date on Friday despite a promised boycott by official opposition parties and the distinct lack of an agreement. Islamic fundamentalists.

Algeria has been wracked by violence in which more than 30,000 people have died since the regime annulled elections in January 1992. The FIS was poised to win.

Mr. Haddam said it was "impossible" to reach a political solution to the crisis without using as a base a January agreement signed in Rome by eight opposition groups, including the FIS, but rejected by the government.

He called on countries to break off diplomatic relations with Algeria and

cut all but humanitarian aid.

Meanwhile, in an interview published Saturday in the *Times* in London, Mr. Haddam said: "The freedom fighters will not allow an election. We are against any act of terrorism but we do support strongly the freedom fighters."

Thursday's attack on the Club des Pins residence outside Algiers, where families of government and other leading officials live, was a spectacular example of where the guerrillas can strike if they want.

Two of the group were drivers working for a tourist company at the compound, which houses the country's most important official residences, the government said in a communiqué.

When police went to arrest one of the drivers, a man opened fire on them with an automatic pistol and was killed in an exchange of fire, the statement added.

The double blast on Thursday killed two people and wounded seven, according to state-run television.

Club des Pins, which has round-the-clock security and limited access, is a collection of villas and chalets housing the families of government officials and other figures threatened by fundamentalists.

The attack came as police claimed the security situation was improving by the week and that safety for the election was guaranteed.

The daily *Liberté* paper took up the general mood, defining the attack as a "challenge to the state" and asking: "If people in Club des Pins are not safe, who is?"

The daily *Tribune* said the perpetrators were "a security man, a gardener and a driver" who had got past all checks.

Meanwhile a car bomb exploded Friday at Donera police station 15 kilometres south of Algiers, causing no injuries, and another was dismantled at the town hall in nearby Stavoueli, government daily *Al Moudjahid* reported.

Libya warns of U.S. 'threat' to Iraq, Arabs

TRIPOLI (AFP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi addressed a message on Friday to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warning of "the threat to Arab national security" posed by Iraq, the state news agency said.

Libya requested on Thursday an "urgent" session of the defence council of the Arab League to examine "American provocations" in the region and "threats" from Washington against Iraq. Colonel Qadhafi earlier criticised U.S.-Jordanian military manoeuvres begun on Friday, accusing Washington of seeking to "terrorise" the Arabs.

"The American provocations and military movements including those of aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea and the Gulf" require a meeting of the league defence council, the Libyan news agency *JANA* said.

The agency also condemned "threats" by Washington against Baghdad after the United States promised to defend Jordan against re-praisals from Baghdad for giving political asylum to Iraqi defectors.

Against this backdrop of escalating violence, Amnesty

Amnesty: Pakistan condones police brutality

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Amnesty International has accused Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government of condoning police brutality and "serious human rights violations."

In a statement released Saturday the human rights group said Ms. Bhutto's government has ignored police excesses in its attempt to end the relentless violence that has terrorised Karachi in recent months.

It accused police in Karachi of illegally detaining people, beating and blindfolding suspects and killing suspects in custody.

A spokesman for Ms. Bhutto denied the Amnesty International charges.

"This is a propaganda

war," Farhatullah Babar, Ms. Bhutto's press assistant, told the Associated Press Saturday.

"The government denies that there have been cold-blooded murders or that terrorists have been killed in police custody," he said.

In the last three months nearly 900 people have been killed in Karachi by gunmen, who fire at random from rooftops and ethnic militants, who roam the streets in gangs armed with sophisticated weapons.

Israeli coppers kill 4 guerrillas in Lebanon

MARJAYOUN (Agencies) — Israeli helicopter gunships blasted guerrilla targets in South Lebanon on Saturday, killing four guerrillas, security and pro-Israeli militia sources said.

Lebanese security sources said four helicopters fired rockets and machine-guns in the Yehmoun area near the market town of Nabatiyeh north of the Jewish state's South Lebanon occupation zone.

Sources with the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) said later that an Israeli pilot found the bodies of three guerrillas in an area near Yehmoun near the edge of the 15-kilometre deep Israeli-held zone hours after the air raid.

It was not immediately known if he was a PFLP-GC or Hezbollah member.

Israeli forces spotted the guerrilla squad in the morning as it tried to sneak into the central sector of the enclave Israel occupies as a "security zone" against cross-border guerrillas.

Four missiles were fired in Israel's 25th air strike in Lebanon this year.

Israeli forces also shelled the southern market town of Nabatiyeh near the central sector of the enclave Israel occupies as a "security zone" against cross-border guerrillas.

Saturday's casualties brought this year's toll to 117 dead and 234 injured in hostilities this year in South Lebanon.

Eleven PFLP-GC guerrillas were wounded in two air raids against group hideouts in South Lebanon this month.

Three PFLP-GC guerrillas were killed in an air attack on posts of the Palestinian faction in hills south of Beirut in January.

The Damascus-based group is vehemently opposed to the 1993 peace accord between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel.

In Beirut, a spokesman for Hezbollah said one Hezbollah fighter was killed in a clash with an Israeli patrol in Yehmoun, which was followed by an air raid by Israeli helicopters.

He said the Israeli forces suffered several casualties in the fire fight but he made no mention of any Hezbollah casualties in Saturday's air attack.

U.N. agencies issue urgent Somalia appeal

NAIROBI (R) — The saga of a mysterious "cave woman" whose discovery last April in a remote part of Cyprus caused a commotion in the island, ended on Saturday when she was deported to her native Sweden. But she took some of her secrets with her.

Marie Louise Birgitta Henrich, 47, was found dehydrated and semi-comatose in a cave in the far west of Cyprus. She hit the headlines with her refusal to communicate with anyone around her or reveal who she was.

She was given sanctuary in a Greek Orthodox convent but she was thrown out after she scandalised the nuns of the Ayios Nicolaos monastery by drawing sketches of people in the nude.

"Even though there are sufficient food supplies in the city markets, and prices are quite low, many people simply do not have the money to buy food," said Erling De-

ssau of the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP).

"We have been monitoring the situation over the past six months. UNICEF and WFP (World Food Programme) have increased their emergency stocks, but if we do not receive minimum inputs from donors, the current level of emergency assistance and preventive programmes will not be possible," Mr. Deissau said.

UNCT urged all Somalian factions to cease hostilities and pursue reconciliation, saying it could not effectively address Somalian humanitarian needs without the cooperation of the Somalian people.

The U.N. group said security problems in the Somalia capital Mogadishu were a direct cause of malnutrition, as violent skirmishes prevented people from reaching market places.

"In recent weeks, a num-

ber of violent attacks on public transport buses have killed all other region in terms of rehabilitation and recovery.

Somali factions have shown no sign of uniting since the UNOSOM pullout. Faction leaders opposed to warlord Mohamad Farah Aideed on Thursday dismissed his claims to be president and refused to recognise his government.

Aided forces control the southern part of the Somalian capital and he was elected by his supporters as president of Somaliland in June and formed a government.

But he has received no international recognition. Former Aided financier Osman Ali Hassan Attie thanked the international community and the Organisation of African Unity, "which have recognised the fact that there is no government in Somalia."

Mogadishu lags behind all other region in terms of rehabilitation and recovery.

Somali factions have shown no sign of uniting since the UNOSOM pullout. Faction leaders opposed to warlord Mohamad Farah Aideed on Thursday dismissed his claims to be president and refused to recognise his government.

Aided forces control the southern part of the Somalian capital and he was elected by his supporters as president of Somaliland in June and formed a government.

But he has received no international recognition. Former Aided financier Osman Ali Hassan Attie thanked the international community and the Organisation of African Unity, "which have recognised the fact that there is no government in Somalia."

Mogadishu lags behind all other region in terms of rehabilitation and recovery.

Somali factions have shown no sign of uniting since the UNOSOM pullout. Faction leaders opposed to warlord Mohamad Farah Aideed on Thursday dismissed his claims to be president and refused to recognise his government.

Aided forces control the southern part of the Somalian capital and he was elected by his supporters as president of Somaliland in June and formed a government.

But he has received no international recognition. Former Aided financier Osman Ali Hassan Attie thanked the international community and the Organisation of African Unity, "which have recognised the fact that there is no government in Somalia."

Mogadishu lags behind all other region in terms of rehabilitation and recovery.

Somali factions have shown no sign of uniting since the UNOSOM pullout. Faction leaders opposed to warlord Mohamad Farah Aideed on Thursday dismissed his claims to be president and refused to recognise his government.

Aided forces control the southern part of the Somalian capital and he was elected by his supporters as president of Somaliland in June and formed a government.